

**Introduced by Senator Evans**

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Chesbro)

**(Coauthors: Senators Cannella, Corbett, Padilla, and Wolk)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Eggman, Williams, and Yamada)

March 6, 2014

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 94—Relative to wineries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 94, as introduced, Evans. “California Wines: Down to Earth” month.

This measure would proclaim April 2014 as the “California Wines: Down to Earth” month, to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California wineries and winegrape growers.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Sustainability is a vital part of the long-term future
- 2 of California wine, which contributes an estimated \$61.5 billion
- 3 in annual economic impact to California’s economy; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The Wine Institute and the California Association
- 5 of Wine Grape Growers created the California Code of Sustainable
- 6 Winegrowing workbook more than a decade ago, with the third
- 7 edition released in January 2013, and it has since been used by
- 8 vineyards and wineries representing three quarters of California’s
- 9 wine grape acreage and production to self-assess operations; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The California Code of Sustainable Winegrowing
- 11 Program, now managed by the California Sustainable Winegrowing
- 12 Alliance, is comprised of more than 200 best practices for

1 vineyards and wineries that benefit the environment, employees,  
2 neighbors, and high-quality wine; and

3 WHEREAS, Other state and regional sustainability programs,  
4 such as Lodi Rules, Sustainability in Practice (SIP), Napa Green,  
5 Fish Friendly Farming, the Green Business Program, and others,  
6 all play an important role in the California wine communities'  
7 efforts to grow grapes and produce wine in a manner that is  
8 environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially  
9 equitable; and

10 WHEREAS, Growing participation in sustainable organic, and  
11 biodynamic, certification programs further conveys California  
12 vintners' and growers' adherence to high standards, desire for  
13 transparency, and dedication to continuous improvement; and

14 WHEREAS, California's wine community conserves water,  
15 energy, and other natural resources, protects habitat, employee  
16 welfare, and air, water, and soil quality, and promotes the use of  
17 natural pest management and alternative energy and fuels; and

18 WHEREAS, California's 3,800 wineries and 4,600 wine grape  
19 growers are primarily family businesses, with a long-term  
20 commitment to the health and vitality of their communities, and  
21 to preserving the land for future generations; and

22 WHEREAS, California's growers and vintners commitment to  
23 sustainability has been documented in a newly published book,  
24 *Down to Earth, A Seasonable Tour of Sustainable Winegrowing*  
25 *in California*; now, therefore, be it

26 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
27 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 2014 as  
28 the time to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California  
29 wineries and winegrape growers with the theme, "California Wines:  
30 Down to Earth" month, timed to Earth Day on April 22nd; and be  
31 it further

32 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
33 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.